

**CITY OF MASCOUTAH
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
#3 WEST MAIN STREET
MASCOUTAH, IL 62258-2030**

APRIL 20, 2015

The minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Mascoutah.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City prayer was delivered by City Clerk Kari Haas. The Council remained standing and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gerald Daugherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Gerald Daugherty and Council members Ben Grodeon, Paul Schorr, John Weyant, and Pat McMahan.

Absent: None.

Other Staff Present: City Manager Cody Hawkins, City Clerk Kari Haas, City Attorney Al Paulson, City Engineer Ron Yeager, Police Chief Bruce Fleshren, Fire Chief Joe Zinck, Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner, and Assistant City Manager Lisa Koerkenmeier.

Establishment of a Quorum: A quorum of City Council members was present.

AMEND AGENDA

None.

MINUTES

The minutes of the April 6, 2015 regular City Council meeting were presented and stood as presented. The minutes of the April 6, 2015 Executive Session meeting were presented and stood as presented.

Motion passed. Passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wayne Armstrong – spoke regarding the drainage issues in his yard as a result of the West Harnett Street reconstruction project and asked for an update. City Manager stated that they have spoken with the contractor and will begin working on the drainage issue in the next week or two. Mr. Armstrong asked about his neighbor putting in a concrete pad and wanted to know who he would need to speak to about code compliance. City Manager stated to contact either himself or Lisa Koerkenmeier regarding the issue.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Chief Joe Zinck – March 2015 report was provided.

Public Safety Director Bruce Fleshren – March 2015 report was provided.

Nick Gailius, Fairview Heights Police Chief and President of the Southern Illinois Police Chief's Association, and Bill Fitzgerald, Director of SILEC (Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission), presented the Mascoutah Police Department and Chief Bruce Fleshren a plaque recognizing the police department for having 100% of the Mascoutah police officers complete the PROJECT XVI Office Safety Training Course, which is a training course developed to reduce the number of police officers injured and killed in the line of duty.

Finance Coordinator Lynn Weidenbenner – Monthly financials provided. Mayor asked about the 6th Street Reconductoring Project and if bills had been received for that. City Engineer stated that the bill has been received and will be paid before the end of the month.

City Engineer/Director of Public Works Ron Yeager – Status report on public projects and monthly building permits report provided. Councilman Grodeon asked about the SRTS project and the project start date being pushed out. City Engineer stated that the contractor had a couple smaller projects they wanted to get done and will be starting on the SRTS in May.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor

Attended the following meetings and functions: Chamber meeting, volunteered at the Visitor's Center, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, IML Executive Committee meeting with Governor Rauner, CASA benefit dinner, St. Clair County Transportation Board committee meeting, Tri-County Transportation Board committee meeting.

City Council

Grodeon – Extended his congratulations to Councilman Schorr and Weyant on their reelection.

Schorr – Nothing to report.

Weyant – Attended the following meetings and functions: Rotary circus.

McMahan – Reported that Jennifer Coverdell ran the Boston Marathon today.

City Manager – Nothing to report.

City Attorney – Congratulated Councilman Schorr and Weyant on their reelection.

City Clerk – Nothing to report.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

CONSENT CALENDAR (OMNIBUS)

The March 2015 Fund Balance Report and Claims & Salaries Report were provided under the omnibus consideration.

Councilman Grodeon asked about the replacement of the hood on a vehicle. City Manager stated that it was for an Electric Department vehicle and was not the result of a vehicle accident and had been damaged for some time but there were some budgeted funds remaining in the budget which allowed for the hood to be replaced at this time.

Councilman Weyant asked what a stanrol box is. City Manager stated that it is for the pool and is an electronic box that controls the chemicals for the pool on a timed cycle.

Weyant moved, seconded by Schorr, to accept all items under Omnibus consideration.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

PC 15-04 – FINAL PLAT FOR CHIEF VIEW ESTATES (SECOND READING)

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval of an ordinance approving the Final Plat for Chief View Estates, a six (6) lot single-family residential development located at the southwest corner of North 6th Street and Fuesser Road.

Schorr moved, seconded by McMahan, to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 15-07, approving the Final Plat for Chief View Estates, subject to the attached Findings for Approval.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

BUDGET 15/16 – ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE (SECOND READING)

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of approval and adoption of the City's FY15/16 Budget.

McMahan moved, seconded by Grodeon, to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 15-08, thereby establishing the City's FY15/16 Budget.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

CODE CHANGE – ELECTRIC, WATER & SEWER RATES (SECOND READING)

City Manager presented report for Council consideration of revisions to Chapter 11 – Electric System and Chapter 38 – Water and Sewer Rates of the City Code by adoption of ordinance to reflect no change in utility rates for FY15/16.

Grodeon moved, seconded by Weyant, to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 15-09, thereby modifying Chapter 11, Electric System, Article 1, General Regulations, Section 1; and approve and adopt Ordinance No. 15-10, thereby modifying Chapter 38, Article 4 Division 2 Water Rates, Section 12 and Division 3 Sewer Rates, Section 31.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

COUNCIL – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Mayor stated that there will be a presentation on Wednesday at Illinois Route 4 with Joe Cunningham and invited everyone to join the event. Mayor stated that Councilman Schorr will be presenting a proclamation to Joe Cunningham at the event.

Mayor provided information to Council regarding an email from City Manager regarding closing papers from IMEA with regards to the refinancing of some of their bonds which will need to be signed by himself, the City Clerk and City Treasurer and wanted to make sure the Council had no further questions. City Attorney stated that he has reviewed the document and did recommend some changes which were incorporated by IMEA.

Councilman Grodeon asked what type of savings the City and the residents will see. City Manager stated that IMEA is refinancing about \$600 million in bond debt which will save about \$5.7 million annually which will be transferred to IMEA members and reduce the City's cost but will have to find out just how much of a savings will be transferred to the residents.

Councilman Grodeon asked about the newspaper article regarding the amount of fraudulent tax returns and if there was anyone as an elected official that could be contacted to help send a message to get more controls in place. City Manager stated that it is a nationwide issue and it is an issue at the IRS so they would need to be contacted or contact a congressman.

Councilman Schorr commented on Hunter's Trail and the portion of ground over the ditch that needs a sidewalk to be put in to connect to the sidewalks on both sides of the ditch. City Manager stated that he will contact the homeowner's association to find out the status because they had called regarding using the City's 50/50 sidewalk replacement program but haven't received an application from them.

Councilman Schorr asked about a sidewalk on St. Christopher Court and there was a house built on a corner lot and a sidewalk was placed in front of the house but not on the side. City Manager stated that he will have to look into that.

Councilman Schorr asked about the Crown Pointe and SSA issue. City Attorney stated that at this point they will be filing lawsuit against the developers. Councilman Grodeon asked how much is owed by the developer for the SSA shortfall. City Manager stated that it is around the \$50,000-60,000 range. Councilman Grodeon asked about holding building permit issuance until the debt has been paid. City Manager stated that was an option but the developers had been working on a refinance of the loan but have not heard

anything recently which is why he spoke with the City Attorney on moving forward with the lawsuit. City Attorney stated that he will check into the legality of holding building permit issuance.

Councilman Weyant commented about the 6th Street Reconductoring Project and a resident having ruts through the yard. City Manager stated that he did speak with the resident and was waiting until the work was completed before fixing the yard. City Manager stated that they are waiting on the other utilities to move their lines off the old poles so that the old poles can be removed and then they will work on fixing the yard. City Manager stated that he will contact the other utilities to get them moving on removing their lines from the old poles to the new poles.

CITY MANAGER – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Schorr moved, seconded by Grodeon, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining – Section 2(c)(2) at 7:44 p.m.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Schorr moved, seconded by Grodeon, to return to Regular Session at 8:11 p.m.

Motion passed. Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS OR FINAL ACTIONS

UNION CONTRACT – LABORERS LOCAL 742

Weyant moved, seconded by McMahan, to approve the union contract with Laborers Local 742 for the period of May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2018 and authorize appropriate officials to execute the necessary documents.

Motion passed. AYE's – Grodeon, Schorr, Weyant, McMahan, Daugherty. NAY's – none.

Councilman Grodeon stated that it appears there is a possible water leak on North County Road across from the cemetery because there is constantly water seeping from the ground. City Manager stated he believes it is a sump pump but will check into it.

ADJOURNMENT

McMahan moved, seconded by Schorr, to **adjourn at 8:15 p.m.**

Motion passed. Motion passed by unanimous yes voice vote.

Kari D. Haas, City Clerk